

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

In a relay apparatus, when an error of the next relay destination is detected at the time of reception of a connection establishment request, the connection establishment request is refused by a connection negative response unit and a negative response relay unit, and a negative response is transmitted to a relay source. When the negative response is received from the relay destination, a connection establishment requesting unit of an end system of a communicating source again issues a connection establishment request in which another relay destination has been selected without notifying an application of a failure of the connection establishment, and establishes a connection to a communicating destination end system by another path.

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